

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6035
ANSWERED ON:31.08.2001
INTERNATIONAL SUGAR ORGANISATION
SUDARSANA E.M. NATCHIAPPAN

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objects of International Sugar Organisation; and
- (b) the details of benefits received by our country from the above organisation during the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a): The International Sugar Organization (ISO) is an International Commodity Body which administers various International Sugar Agreements. The International Sugar Agreement 1992, which is presently in force has the following objectives:-

- (i) To ensure enhanced International cooperation in connection with world sugar matters and related issues;
- (ii) To provide a forum for intergovernmental consultations on sugar and on ways to improve the world sugar economy;
- (iii) To facilitate traded by collecting and providing information on the world sugar market and other sweeteners;
- (iv) To encourage increased demand for sugar, particularly for non-traditional uses.

(b): India has been a member of all International Sugar Agreements since 1961. As one of the largest producers of sugar in the world, it is necessary for India to remain a member of the ISO. The membership of the Agreement enables us to get information on the international sugar situation in respect of country-wise production/consumption as well as likely imports/exports, market review, prices and future trends, assessment of various developments taking place in the sugar industry, including byproduct utilization as well as changes in policies in different countries and other such matters. It also provides us with detailed impact reports/analysis/ assessment of the beet sugar industry and also of artificial sweeteners. All this information is useful to our country for planning its imports/exports. Membership of the International Sugar organization also enables us to seek funds from the Common Fund for Commodities for projects connected with sugar and sugarcane.

It may also be mentioned that Indian representative was elected Chairman of the International Sugar Council for the year 2001 and the 19th Session of the International Sugar Council was held in India at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi between 28th to 30th May, 2001.